

THE SEWER BOARD OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA HELD A WORK SESSION AT THE WASTE WATER PLANT, NEW ALBANY, INDIANA ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2007 AT 3:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Mayor James Garner, Vice Chairman Bill Utz, Kevin Zurschmiede, Todd Solomon and Larry Kochert.

OTHERS: Attorney Greg Fifer, Tim Crawford, Brian Dixon and Rob Sartell, EMC, and City Clerk Marcey Wisman.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Garner called the meeting to order at 3:51 p.m.

Mayor Garner asked if everyone has a copy of the 5 year improvement plan that they would be working from. He reported that he had received a call from the CSX today and they were not happy with the City not contacting the Louisville Office and he explained to them that they had not provided the board with contact information for these individuals.

Mr. Fifer stated that the letter from Umbaugh reads that the money we have is from the BAN and the \$1M from the Jail Bond totaling a little over \$2.3M for projects that we can pull from now. He explained that it was his assumption that they had confirmed with Mark and he didn't anticipate any need for that fund so it could be used for capital projects if the board chose to do so.

Mr. Zurschmiede asked for an explanation of who Umbaugh was.

Mr. Fifer explained that they are CPA's that the City hired as a consultant and they work with municipalities in doing financings and they have a section that works with utilities doing rate studies. He stated that they do not do tax returns but they are the largest financial consulting firm in the state and they did the analysis for the Sewer Board to take to the City Council when they restructured the sewer rate.

Mayor Garner explained what they had done for the sewer Utility to even out the bond payments and reduce the first year annual payment by \$1.2M and over the next sixteen years the payment will level out.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

Tim Crawford presented a five-year Capital Improvement Mater Plan for the Board to review.

Mayor Garner informed them that the company that they will be getting the Flush Truck from will take off \$20,000 from the new truck with a trade in.

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Mr. Crawford stated that this list is a combination of everyone's thoughts on what projects need to be done. He stated that they should go through the list line by line and decide which projects are priorities.

Mr. Solomon stated that he thought the payments on the flush truck were \$29,500 for the first 4 years and \$79,500 for the final year.

Mr. Dixon stated that it was \$198,500 over five payments with a guaranteed buy back at the end or the option to own.

Mayor Garner asked Mr. Dixon to discuss 15th street.

Mr. Dixon explained that he, Jim and Mr. Elling spoke with MAC Construction and suggested that they give a quote based on piling down to bedrock at 31' to dig out and core a concrete mud mat to level for the equipment, cut holes in the sheeting for a six inch pipe all the way through to the existing manhole opening, seal off the manhole and leave the six inch line in place and put in a new manhole upstream of the line and then tie the eight inch line into it. He said that they aren't supporting 75 homes so this line would work and it will give them the opportunity to maintain this line and the quote for this option is \$134,000. He stated that MAC asked them to consider a second option which would consist of driving down 16' and excavating underwater at 16' and the quote for this option was \$86,400. He said that this would reduce the cost and the time that it would take to finish this project.

Mr. Elling stated that if he is willing to stay firm to his price this can save money but if he won't stick to the price it could be dangerous

Mr. Dixon stated that he had drafted a notice to precede letter with the \$84,400 option but that he can easily change it to whatever option the board wanted to go with.

Mr. Fifer asked what all the second option consisted of.

Mr. Dixon stated that this will pay for the driving sheeting 16', excavate 15', pour concrete to counteract buoyancy, run the 6 inch line from one end to the other and a manhole in place at the end of the line.

Mr. Dixon explained that if they run into problems he is to stop the work and discuss with the board where to go from there.

Mr. Fifer wanted to clarify that he is bearing the risk of the 16' depth and if he can't make it work he will find an alternate solution at that price.

Mr. Elling stated that if he is unsuccessful to force the line they would tell them to stop and they will use the hole for the manhole. He stated that they are in a quandary as to

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how to word the contract.

Mr. Fifer asked what the risk is to the railroad.

Mr. Dixon stated you run a risk of creating a void under the railroad but the risk is substantially less than if they do it the other way.

Mr. Fifer asked if they can maintain what they pull out from under the railroad.

Mr. Dixon informed the board that at the Board of Works Chuck Simons reported that the CSX would be on 15th at Oak to fix the signals. He also reported that they did not need to pump at oak today because somehow the water is now making its way through but there was a hole at 15th Street and the stuff he removed made way for more stuff to get in but he would recommend moving forward with this. He also reported that Warren Nash from Solid Waste District and asked for a contract with they City about using their facilities one day a week and to put in a building for the chemicals. He said the building is a little larger than what they had anticipated and may become a problem.

Mr. Solomon asked if this is considered an emergency and whether or not they need to get bids for this work.

Mr. Fifer stated that this is an emergency and they do not need bids.

Mayor Garner asked if anyone on the board had any problems with the second option.

Mr. Dixon stated that he would go forward with the letter

Mr. Fifer asked how long this would take.

Mr. Dixon stated that he was quoted a week.

Mr. Fifer told Mr. Dixon that it might be a good idea to work the time frame in the letter to remind them that they have advised that this will take a week.

Mr. Dixon stated that 15th Street will only be closed on the east side.

Mayor Garner stated that since it is an emergency repair that the Board of Works doesn't need to approve it, but he will notify them of what is going on.

Mr. Fifer asked if these repairs had anything to do with the \$240,000.

Mr. Dixon stated that it did not, and that was just the cost for the study.

Mr. Fifer asked how big of an area on 15th Street does the study cover.

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Mr. Elling said it was from Spring Street to Beeler and around the corner on Beeler.

Mayor Garner asked about the other side of Spring and stated that there was about another 50' there and he stated that the manhole by King Street has dropped about a foot in the last two years.

Mr. Elling said they could go back that far without a problem.

Mr. Fifer asked if there would be an analysis done of all the crossings in that area.

Mr. Elling said yes

Mr. Dixon stated that his guys were able to clean that section in several hours from manhole to manhole and they did it twice.

Mr. Elling voiced his concerns for using Donahue as the over-seer of Reynolds he stated that he sees it as a conflict of interest.

Mr. Dixon stated that EMC could do it but that they would have to take men off of other contracted projects. He suggested that they could have Wes Christmas over-see Reynolds.

Mr. Solomon asked Mr. Elling what the not-to-exceed number was with Reynolds.

Mr. Elling stated that it is \$119,000

Mr. Dixon explained that this included all of 15th Street from Spring to Beeler, the crossings, and the storm sewers.

Mr. Elling said this entailed cleaning, televising and bypass pumping.

Mayor Garner asked what the amount for storm sewage was.

Mr. Elling stated that is was around \$35,000

Mr. Dixon said that this was based on linear footage not time.

Mr. Solomon stated that he feels that the Reynolds quote is high.

Mr. Dixon asked if he would like for him to get quotes from other firms.

Mr. Solomon stated that in his opinion that would be a good idea.

Mr. Dixon asked if this was going to interfere with Reynolds doing repair work

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Mr. Elling stated that they have to do a bypass for the repair work so there might be a double set up in this instance.

Mr. Solomon stated that he doesn't think that we shouldn't use Reynolds he just thinks that they should get them to give a unit cost as well as a few others.

Mr. Elling stated they could give a cost not to exceed

Mr. Dixon stated that he would contact other firms that he knows to get quotes on a per foot bases.

Mr. Elling asked if they should put their work on hold to see if this works.

Mr. Solomon stated that he thought it would be best and if this doesn't work it will only put them behind a week.

Mr. Solomon asked about the cost for the 15th Street construction repairs.

Mr. Dixon stated that he put in numbers but he doesn't know exactly what the numbers need to be. He explained that he said he tried to use past studies and construction cost projects which showed the studies running 10% in construction cost, and he used that to come up with the \$240,000. He asked if they would like to talk about the Robert E. Lee Pump Station Project.

Mr. Sartell informed them that they need a new impeller on the pump and he spoke with Chicago Pump and was told that they could upgrade the impellers to a bigger size (700 gpm-1400 gpm)

Mr. Utz asked about the force main

Mr. Sartell stated that it is an old force main but they didn't find any issues.

Mr. Dixon said that it had been televised and they didn't find anything.

Mr. Solomon stated that they haven't done an analysis to see if it can accept pumping at that rate and he wanted to know if they needed to go to something in between or just not pump at that rate, and he stated that this was something that needed to be addressed.

Mr. Christmas stated that he just received the information yesterday afternoon and he hasn't had a chance to look into it.

Mr. Tekippe explained that they would need to investigate this further.

Mr. Solomon explained that you will never be able to predict how much flow will show up and when but he thinks they have to have an analysis done to indicate when the

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additional flow reaches a certain level and the proper response to that increase in flow.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the needs for the pump station and what would be a proper size for the impellers and what could happen if a pump goes down.

Mr. Fifer asked what it would cost to rebuild the pumps and valves.

Mr. Sartell stated that it would cost \$800 - \$1,000 each.

Mr. Solomon asked if the old motors could handle the new impellers.

Mr. Sartell stated that he did not know but he was looking in to it.

Mr. Utz asked if they were going to need information from Clark Dietz regarding what kind of flow they can get.

Mr. Solomon stated that they have to know how much of a limiting factor that force main is first.

Mr. Utz stated then they will have to factor in how much additional flow Basin 4 can handle.

Mr. Dixon stated that if they were able to increase the capacity of the pump station and not create any additional work by increasing the force main there was going to be a level where they could take flow to the pump station to allow some development to occur in highlander point.

Mr. Fifer said that it just needs to be analyzed to see what flow is going through there today at dry and peak conditions and then figure out how much more is there in gross flow terms until you have to pull the trigger and make a full capital investment.

Mr. Utz asked what they needed to do in order to get that information.

Mr. Dixon stated that he has a flow meter at Basin 3 and that should be able to tell them how much is going through the lift stations. He explained that the rest would have to come from the individuals that are doing the analysis of the pump station. He said he wouldn't think that the flow characteristics have changed enough in Basin 4 or La Follette to make much difference. He stated that he would look at the flow going into the lift station making sure the pump stations are functioning at the capacity that the pump manufacturer says it will do and check that against the force main to see what kind of impact it has down stream.

Mr. Fifer stated that he concurs that they need to up-date their study to see if this project is still a top priority.

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Mr. Tekippe asked what is going on with Georgetown.

Mr. Fifer stated that they are looking into a new site for their plant and they still have intentions to be off our line at the same time.

Mr. Solomon stated that he believes that the Robert E. Lee Project needs to be their first priority because if there is a single over flow there they have to have another two year demonstration period after the repairs.

Mr. Sartell asked that they be given the chance to look at the flow because they have eliminated 2 I&I's.

Mr. Solomon stated that he is okay with them looking at the flow, but he does not believe that the motors can handle the new impellers.

Mr. Fifer stated that with the lack of funding that we have he does not believe that this project is more important than repairing Basin 35 and Basin 18. He feels that if we can't get more money through the current council that it is best to do what can be done to keep the Pump station going.

Mr. Tekippe stated that they are ready to go on Basin 35 and Basin 18 and can have those done this year.

Mr. Dixon stated that on Basin 18 he adjusted the numbers based on the email from Clark Dietz and he planned that over two years because he felt like they wouldn't be able to get construction completed this year. He explained that he did have some questions about the issues with Janie Lane which is upstream of where they are planning to start the interceptor, and he doesn't know if it will relieve enough pressure to alleviate the potential problem.

Hans Peterson explained the design to correct the problems with Basin 18 and stated that it could be done in 2007 – 2008.

Mr. Fifer stated that on this one he would like to do some easement analysis before hand to save the city some money.

The board ranked Basin 18 1st and Basin 35 2nd on the priority list.

Mr. Fifer asked Mr. Dixon to explain how the monitoring information was incorrect in Basin 18.

Mr. Dixon explained that there is a leg off of the line that was not included.

The Board ranked the Robert E. Lee Pump Station and Force Main as 3rd on the

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priority list.

Mr. Fifer asked if this could be contingent on the monitoring information

Mr. Dixon stated that the I&I projects listed will come out of the \$500,000 projects for the year and not listed as separate items.

Mayor Garner stated that the 15th Street should be paid for out of the \$270,000 from EDIT funds and will have to have a claim filed.

Mr. Solomon asked what the Preliminary treatment rag and grit removal was.

Mr. Sartell explained that they are shoving rags and grit outside and causing a safety problem. He stated that he thinks he can reduce this cost.

Mr. Fifer asked if they were damaging anything by not having this.

Mr. Sartell stated that they were not.

Mr. Solomon asked why this wasn't included in the original plant construction.

Mr. Sartell explained that in the original plant upgrade as far as operational theory they were just going to use the new heasworks.

Mr. Fifer asked if he has checked to see how much he can get for the conveyer.

Mr. Sartell stated that he had talked with Oscar last week and he is checking around to see if anyone is interested and what kind of price they may be able to get for it. He explained that he is going to call around and see what kind of estimates that can get for a truck from that year as well.

Mr. Fifer suggested that he check with Georgetown.

Mayor Garner stated that they are better off trading anything than considering it surplus equipment.

Mr. Fifer asked the Mayor what his gut feeling is that it is worth or what kind of target range are they shooting for.

Mr. Sartell stated that he would think anywhere from \$30,000-\$50,000 because it is only twelve years old and it was kept in good shape.

Mr. Elling listed projects, costs and years that were not listed on the master plan that need to be considered.

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The Board decided that Basin 4 was fourth in the priority list and that the annual I&I's don't get a number but it is recognized that it has to be done this year.

The board discussed the projects listed in the Basin 35-40 Sanitary Master Plan which is on file with the city clerk's office.

Mr. Dixon asked who would be presenting this to the council.

Mr. Kochert stated that he and Mr. Zurschmiede with the help of Mr. Utz, Mr. Solomon and Mayor Garner.

Mr. Fifer stated that he believes that the list needs to be up-dated and a map that easily identifies the areas and then sit down with Mark once this is reorganized and ask him how much of this do they have identified sources for and once that money has run out how much can they get in good faith.

Mr. Dixon asked if there is anyway that they can do this in a workshop with the council rather than in a regular meeting.

Mr. Fifer stated that they want to overlay what they have already allocated and make a note that they will go after TIF money for Basin 35.

Mr. Utz asked if they would be able to discuss impact fees.

Mr. Fifer stated that he would rather have a system development charge for every new connection and it came out to about \$1500 per unit.

Mr. Utz stated that they should be able to propose that to the council.

Mr. Fifer stated that is fine but that that is not money that they can count on for some time and they need funding now for these projects.

Mr. Solomon stated that we also need to look at how we are determining tap fees for apartments and condos.

Mr. Fifer stated that they have worked on that already. It is based on EDU's in the ordinance but Tina was using an older worksheet to calculate tap fees. He stated that he does not believe that there have been many developments that this has affected since the change.

Mr. Solomon asked if the settlement for Fox/Cotner should be included in this plan.

Mr. Fifer stated that it is not a capital project and should come out of their budget.

Mr. Solomon asked if the Master Plan that Donohue is working on should be included in

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the Capital Improvement plan. He stated that there are several lines in the Master Plan that needs to be replaced or repaired to increase the capacity.

Mr. Peterson explained that there currently are projects that cannot be certified because the lines do not have the capacity for developments.

Mr. Solomon asked if they get a development in excess of 15,500 gallons per day are they going to give them certification, because if they aren't they can't allow these developments until they make the improvements. He explained that there are several lines that have this problem.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding whether or not there is capacity all the way down the line to the plant and where needed capacity is in the city and the best way to present this information to the City Council.

Mr. Solomon asked if they were going to include the building of a sewer billing office at \$140,000.

Mr. Fifer asked if he was looking at 2010 or 2011.

Mr. Solomon stated that they do not have any contingency fees included.

Mayor Garner stated that the \$500,000 per year could be considered the contingency amounts.

Mr. Fifer stated that he received a call from Eric Olsen from the EPA stating that they are pleased with what is going on in New Albany and he asked if we are going to get a second amended consent decree anytime soon. Mr. Olsen stated that it has been sitting in Washington and they were trying to decide if they should set a deadline for the bar screen project and the Robert E. Lee Interceptor which are now finished and are no longer issues.

Mr. Solomon stated that he feels that the UV system is a wish list item and should not be included on this list.

Mr. Sartell stated he was fine with taking it off.

Mayor Garner informed the council members of House Bill No. 107 and stated that it is still on third reading and it creates a 1% income tax in your community.

Mr. Fifer asked Mr. Elling how long it will take to have the geotech work done to see if the railroad is affecting the sewer lines on 15th street.

Mr. Elling stated about 6 months.

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Mr. Fifer stated that a memo needs to get out to the council regarding what is going on with 15th Street.

Tim Crawford presented a letter regarding EMC's offer to postpone implementation of contract escalation.

Mr. Crawford stated that the committee worked through the main issues that were presented by the MI2 report and they are willing to start the process to spell out what EMC can offer them at what price.

Mr. Fifer stated that he believes that they should have all this information to the board by May 1.

Mr. Solomon asked what is going on with the floats at the 10th street pump station.

Mr. Sartell explained that the PLC's control the liquid level floats and the bulb floats

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the problems with the PLC's at 10th Street.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Sewer Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor James Garner, Chairman

Marcey J. Wisman, City Clerk

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